WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTION

ASSISTANCE FOR RAIN DEFICIENT STATES

†1019. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the States of the Northern India which have less rainfall than the expected rain fall in the present monsoon season;

(b) the steps Government have taken for the farmers of these States, so far;

(c) the name of the States where special packages for farmers have been given due to no rainfall; and

(d) the details of the fund allocated to the States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The States in North India which received less than normal average rainfall during South-West Monsoon 2006 (June-September) and during post monsoon period so far (1.10.2006 to 22.11.2006), are indicated below:

State	(June-September) (Deviation)	(1.10.06 to 22.11.06) (Deviation)
Haryana	-39%	-74%
Himachal Pradesh	-23%	-59%
Punjab	-13%	-10%
Uttaranchal	-22%	-87%
Uttar Pradesh	-31%	-72%

(b) This year, none of the above mentioned States have so far reported drought/drought-like situation. As per the existing items and norms of expenditure for assistance from relief funds, input subsidy is admissible to farmers for crop loss of 50% and above due to natural calamities @ Rs. 1000/- per hectare for rainfed areas, Rs. 2500/- per hectare for irrigated areas and Rs. 4000/- per hectare for perrennial crops. Input subsidy is also admissible to other farmers in case of severe calamity occurring for second consecutive year (or subsequent year) and subject to the condition that the subsidy will be payable at appropriate rate per hectare upto 2 hectares only, irrespective of size of holdings.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) No special package for farmers has so far been given to any State on account of no rainfall during the above period.

Integrated development of TBOs

1020. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Scheme known as Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) is being implemented under the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the components of the scheme; and

(c) the amount spent on this scheme so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) Board, a statutory and autonomous body under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds" during Tenth Plan under which the following developmental, promotional and extension activities have been undertaken:

(i) Development of elite planting material and model plantations in 10,000 ha. in 21 States.

(ii) R& D programmes through National Network of 43 institutions of ICAR, CSIR, ICFRE and SAUs etc.

(iii) Transfer of technology by imparting trainings to the trainers and farmers on tree borne oilseeds including Jatropha and Karanj for bio-diesel production.

(iv) Establishment of Tree Borne Oilseeds gardens to demonstrate improved package of practices and IPM on tree borne oilseeds.

(v) Back Ended Credit Linked Subsidy Programme for commercial cultivation of Jatropha and Karanj, oil extraction and creation of pre-processing and processing facilities for bio-diesel production.

(c) The State-wise amount spent under this scheme during the period 2002-2006 is given in the Statement.